Abstract of the Disclosure

A portable data terminal for use in a portable data collection network including a backbone network and a plurality of access points coupled to the backbone network. The portable data terminal includes a keypad for inputting data; a barcode reader for inputting barcode information an RF transceiver for wirelessly communicating at least one of data input via the keypad and barcode information read by the barcode reader to the backbone network by way of at least one of the plurality of access points a speaker; and a voice circuit operatively coupled to the RF transceiver and the speaker for receiving voice data via the RF transceiver, and for converting the voice data into a voice signal which is output through the speaker.